Lillian & Harold Weisberg
Coq d'Or Press ROUTE 8, FREDERICK, MD. 21701
Code 301/473-8186

11/10/70

Mr. Robert Q. Vawter
Director of Public Affairs
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Mr. Vawter,

For 22 months I have been trying to get a copy of what I believe I am entitled to under the law, the so-called "memo of transfer" covering Kennedy-assassination items. Dr. Rhoads can provide you with copies of the rather extensive items of correspondence.

It required 82 days for the initial decision that this was a "private" paper, despite contrary assurances to me, including by Dr. Rhoads, that the request would be handled expeditiously. Thereafter, I made repeated and unanswered requests for the government's copy of this document. Finally, the Secret Service gave me a copy, through the National Archives, which again did not answer my repeated requests for it, ever write to acknowledge receipt of it, for something like another half year, Then this paper was redefined to be like a medical paper and was said to be withheld to protect the family's right to privacy (after publication of the Warren Report and all 26 of those volumes!).

None of this is, in my belief, true, but even if it were, under the law, the fact of public use of it by the government waivers any right to withhold it. Mere reference to it by the government constitutes a waiver.

Therefore, this is my appeal from these decisions. I am again asking for a copy of the government's copy of this memo of transfer, with attachments.

In the past, you delayed responding to my appeal for about three months. In itself I believe this is a violation of the law, which specifies promptness. By then I had filed a civil action. I request that, with the history cited above, you give this prompt attention and, in the event you refuse my request, that you forward it through whatever channels of appeal may remain open to me.

Right now, denial of this evidence compromises my rights in other pending litigation in which your agency is the defendant. Under these circumstances, I do believe you should act as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg